

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) ~~An A-tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape,~~
comprising:
 - a fiber array adapted to be connected to an optical waveguide;
 - a fixation section; and
 - a tape fiber ~~comprising including a plurality of tape core section sections, each tape section produced by aligning, in a plurality of stages, aligning a plurality of optical fibers to be fixed to the fiber array and forming the whole of the aligned optical fibers into a tape section, said tape core section sections being disposed on the fixation side of fixed to the fiber array, said tape fiber in its predetermined position, remote from the tape core section, having been fixed, said plurality of optical fibers, having been separated, at a part or the whole of the position intermediate between the two fixed portions, at a position between the fiber array and the fixation section, being separated into a predetermined number of optical fiber units groups which is smaller in number than said plurality of optical fibers, said groups being fixed to the fixation section.~~
3. (Withdrawn) ~~An A-tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape,~~ comprising:
 - a fiber array adapted to be connected to an optical waveguide;
 - a fixation section; and
 - a tape fiber ~~comprising including a plurality of tape core section sections, each tape~~

section produced by ~~aligning, in a plurality of stages, aligning~~ a plurality of optical fibers to ~~be fixed to the fiber array and forming the whole of the aligned optical fibers into a tape~~ section, said tape ~~core section sections~~ being ~~disposed on the fixation side of~~ fixed to the fiber array, said tape fiber in its predetermined position, remote from the tape core section, having been fixed, said plurality of optical fibers, ~~having been arranged, at the position intermediate between the two fixed portions, in one stage, one by one at a position between the fiber array and the fixation section, being separated and arranged parallel to one another and having been~~ being formed into a tape, said tape being fixed to the fixation section.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 2, wherein, in the tape fiber, the region further comprising a protective tube covering the position on the tape fiber in which said plurality of optical fibers have been is separated into a the predetermined number of optical fiber units groups which is smaller in number than said plurality of optical fibers, has been covered with a protective tube.

5. (Withdrawn) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 3, wherein further comprising a protective tube covering the portion, in position at which said plurality of optical fibers have been is arranged in one stage one by one parallel to one another, ~~and have been formed into a tape, has been covered with a protective tube.~~

6. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, wherein the protective tube ~~has been~~ is fixed to the optical fibers at the

~~predetermined position fixation section~~ or a position near the ~~predetermined position fixation section~~.

7. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 2, ~~wherein further comprising~~ a rearrangement section for rearranging the optical fibers, ~~is provided said rearrangement section being located at the predetermined position fixation section~~ or a position near the ~~predetermined position fixation section~~.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, ~~wherein further comprising~~:

a rearrangement section for rearranging the optical fibers, ~~is provided said rearrangement section being located at the predetermined position fixation section~~ or a position near the ~~predetermined position fixation section~~, and

~~a case containing the rearrangement section, with one end of the protective tube has been fixed to one end of a the case, containing the rearrangement section.~~

9. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, ~~wherein further comprising~~:

a rearrangement section, for rearranging the optical fibers, ~~is provided said rearrangement section being located at the predetermined position fixation section~~ or a position near the ~~predetermined position fixation section~~, and

~~a case containing the rearrangement section, with one end of the protective tube has~~

~~been fixed within a the case, containing the rearrangement section.~~

10. (Withdrawn) The ~~tape~~ optical fiber cord ~~with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 3, wherein said plurality of optical fibers ~~fixed to the fiber array~~ are arranged in a plurality of columns ~~of having a plurality of stages, and the whole of the optical fibers has been formed into a tape stages.~~

11. (Withdrawn) The ~~tape~~ optical fiber cord ~~with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 10, wherein the number of columns is 2 and the number of stages is 2.

12. (Currently amended) The ~~tape~~ optical fiber cord ~~with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, wherein ~~only one~~ end of the protective tube ~~has been~~ is fixed.

13. (Currently amended) The ~~tape~~ optical fiber cord ~~with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, wherein the protective tube ~~has been~~ is fixed to optical fibers in a part of the ~~region~~ position where the ~~said plurality of optical fibers have been~~ are separated, ~~one by one.~~

14. (Withdrawn) The ~~tape~~ optical fiber cord ~~with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 5, wherein, in a part of the ~~region in~~ position at which said plurality of optical fibers ~~have been~~ are arranged in ~~one stage one by one~~ parallel to one another and ~~have been~~ are formed into a tape, the protective tube ~~has been~~ is fixed ~~by~~ to the optical fiber tape.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 7, wherein the order of arrangement of the optical fibers ~~delivered from on~~ an end of the rearrangement section ~~in its side~~ remote from the fiber array is identical to the order of arrangement of the optical fibers in the fiber array ~~on the optical waveguide side~~.

16. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, wherein the protective tube is formed of a flame-retardant material.

17. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 4, wherein the protective tube ~~has been~~ is fixed to the fiber array ~~on its~~ adjacent the fixation-side section.

18. (Currently amended) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 2, wherein the pitch of the optical fibers in the fiber array ~~comprises the is~~ half of the pitch ~~(half pitch)~~ of the separated optical fibers at the position in the tape fiber between the fiber array and the fixation section.

19-20. (Canceled)

21. (Withdrawn) The ~~tape-optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 3, ~~wherein further comprising~~ a rearrangement section for rearranging the optical fibers,

~~is provided said rearrangement section being located at the predetermined position fixation~~
section or a position near the predetermined position fixation section.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Withdrawn) The ~~tape optical fiber cord with an optical fiber array tape~~ according to claim 3, wherein the pitch of the optical fibers in the fiber array ~~comprises the~~ is half of the pitch ~~(half pitch)~~ of the parallel optical fibers at the position in the tape fiber between the fiber array and the fixation section.

24. (New) An optical fiber tape, comprising:

a fiber array adapted to be connected to an optical waveguide;

a fixation section; and

a tape fiber including a plurality of tape sections, said tape sections being fixed to the fiber array, said plurality of optical fibers being separated at a position between the fiber array and the fixation section and being fixed to the fixation section.

25. (New) The optical fiber tape according to claim 8, wherein the order of arrangement of the optical fibers on an end of the rearrangement section remote from the fiber array is identical to the order of arrangement of the optical fibers in the fiber array.

26. (New) The optical fiber tape according to claim 9, wherein the order of arrangement

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of the optical fibers on an end of the rearrangement section remote from the fiber array is identical to the order of arrangement of the optical fibers in the fiber array.

27. (New) The optical fiber tape according to claim 5, wherein the protective tube comprises a flame-retardant material.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Each of Figures 1 and 5 of the drawings is amended by correcting the legend CODE to
CORD.